

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 30**  
**INCIDENT NO. 2000-016**  
**DATE: September 21, 2000      TIME: 12:00 p.m.**

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer  
State Capitol  
Bismarck, N.D. 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Flooding, ground saturation and storms.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: Record inflows are forecasted for September for the Jamestown Reservoir after thunderstorms this summer saturated the upper James River Basin. Within the first 13 days of this month, a total of 4,700 acre feet of water flowed into the reservoir, 850 percent of the normal inflow for the entire month of September. Normal September inflow measures approximately 550 acre feet. The forecasted inflow for this month is projected at 8,950 acre feet, which will be the highest amount of inflow since record-keeping began on the reservoir in 1954.

On September 14, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) increased its release rate for the Jamestown Dam from 500 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 550 cfs; the release rate at the Pipestem Dam remains at 50 cfs. This level of releases is required to evacuate the flood control pools at both reservoirs by November 15. The Pipestem and Jamestown Dams currently measure 21.3 feet and 7.6 feet, respectively.

Rainfall amounts in Pembina County measured up to one inch by September 13, compounding harvest-related problems. Because of limited drying time between rain showers, 5 percent of grain and 99 percent of edible crops have not been harvested.

4. RESOURCES:  
LOCAL: No change from previous reports.  
STATE: No change from previous reports.  
FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.
5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: No change from previous reports.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: Based on the recommendation of the State Engineer, the State Water Commission recently approved spending up to \$75,000 for engineering design, other technical services and to secure options for the

land rights necessary to construct the Twin Lakes Emergency Outlet, contingent upon the availability of funds. The temporary Twin Lakes Emergency Outlet would divert Devils Lake water into the Sheyenne River and eventually into the Red River. Last month, Devils Lake downstream awareness meetings were conducted in four cities throughout eastern North Dakota. Officials reviewed the State of North Dakota's intentions to provide flood relief for Devils Lake. They also discussed recent studies by the U.S. Geological Survey, the State Water Commission and the Regional Weather Information Center on the climatology and potential effects of an emergency outlet.

The USACE recently received \$2 million as a supplemental appropriation for preconstruction engineering and design of a permanent emergency outlet. The funds will be used for data collection and evaluation of environmental impacts. Work will include evaluation of alternatives and upper basin storage, detailed mapping of the entire Sheyenne River, ground water monitoring, vegetation inventories, cultural feature inventory and supplementary hydraulic modeling.

Staff members for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will distribute educational material and will discuss hazard mitigation measures this weekend at the Devils Lake Holiday Mall. They will staff a booth at the mall from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Friday is the last day for North Dakotans to register for federal and state disaster assistance for damages caused by storms and flooding during April 5 to August 12. To date, federal and state assistance has topped \$35 million.

The Satellite Disaster Field Office in West Fargo will be closed as of September 22, however the Joint Public Assistance Center (JPAC) at that location will remain functional.

As of September 20, Job Service North Dakota received 5,424 claims and paid \$5,214,081 in Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) benefits to farmers, ranchers, farm workers, migrant workers and other self-employed individuals who have lost income because of disaster conditions.

The Public Assistance Program has approved 145 eligible requests for public assistance from local governments, state agencies and private non-profit organizations. As of September 20, more than \$1.9 million has been paid to applicants.

As of September 19, a total of 9,078 North Dakotans had registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Teleregistration Center for individual assistance programs.

- The Disaster Housing Program has received 7,603 applications. To date, FEMA has paid more than \$12,795,090 million in housing benefits. More than \$1.8 million in housing benefits has been

designated for mitigation measures to prevent or minimize future flooding. These measures include installation of drain plugs and backwater valves, elevating appliances, anchoring mobile homes, replacing sump pumps and repairing and relocating electrical panels.

- The Individual and Family Grant Program, administered by North Dakota Emergency Management, has received 3,299 applications and has approved more than \$3 million in benefits.
- The Small Business Administration (SBA) has received 1,769 applications to disaster victims and has administered more than \$10 million in loans.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER: FEMA has developed a web page with cleanup and recovery information. The page is located at: <http://www.fema.gov/reg-viii/floods.htm>

Situation Reports published by North Dakota Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is: <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

---

Douglas C. Friez, State Director